

Patent claims

1. Sterilization testing apparatus made of a housing with a testing chamber, indicator placed therein, and supply line for supplying the sterilizing medium, characterized in that said housing of said testing apparatus comprises at least two housing parts (3) and (5) that are matched to one another, worked into said housing part (3) is a supply channel (4) whose arrangement exposes the base of said testing chamber and said supply channel (4) has an opening (7) or (7') both to said testing chamber (1) and to the outside.
2. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that said supply channel (4) is worked into said housing part (3) and/or (5) and embodied through this arrangement in the interior of said housing parts (3) and/or (5) is at least one ridge (9) that at least partially along with parts of said side part(s) (15) of said housing parts (3) and/or (5) form said supply channel (4) and said supply channel (4) receives said indicator (2) and/or the arrangement of said supply channel (4) creates at least one testing chamber (1) in which at least one indicator (2) is placed.
3. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that said supply channel (4) has a length that is so long relative to its cross-section that under normal sterilization conditions said supply channel (4) cannot be completely deaerated.
4. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 2 and 3, characterized in that said indicator (2) is placed over the entire length of said supply channel (4).

5. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 2 and 3, characterized in that a plurality of indicators (2) is distributed over the length of said supply channel (4).
6. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 2 and 3, characterized in that said ridge(s) (9) and said housing parts (3) and (5) close said supply channel (4) sterilization media-tight to the outside and to themselves.
7. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said supply channel (4) has a square or rectangular cross-section.
8. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said supply channel (4) is embodied in a meandering and/or spiral shape.
9. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said housing parts (3) and (5) are securely joined to one another.
10. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that said housing part (3) or (5) that does not contain said ridge(s) (9) is a film (16).
11. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that said housing parts (3) and/or (5) comprise a transparent material.
12. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that said housing parts (3) and (5) have a pre-determined breaking line.

13. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that at least one tear strip (14) is worked into said housing part (3) or (5).
14. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that said housing parts (3) or (5) have an opening that are closed by means of a closure (12).
15. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 14, characterized in that said closure (12) is embodied as a single-use closure.
16. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that a serial number is applied to said housing part (3) and/or (5).
17. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said serial number is applied as a bar code.
18. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 3, characterized in that said housing part (3) and/or (5) is provided with a scale.
19. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that in the multilayer embodiment said housing parts (3') and (3'') are connected to one another via an opening (11), said housing part (3'') has a supply channel (4) with an opening (7) to the outside, and said housing part (3') contains a supply channel (4) with an opening (7') to said testing chamber (1) with an indicator (2) placed therein.

20. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said housing parts (3) and (5) are detachably joined to one another and contain a seal (10) between said housing parts.

21. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 20, characterized in that placed in said housing part (5) as seal (10) is a sealing mat.

22. Sterilization apparatus in accordance with claims 1 and 2, characterized in that said housing parts (3) and (5) comprise heat-resistance plastic material.

23. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 22, characterized in that each of said housing parts (3) and (5) comprises different plastic materials.

24. Sterilization testing apparatus in accordance with claim 22, characterized in that said heat-resistant plastic materials are suitable for an injection molding process.